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Ag Chemical Usage May 17, 2002

NEWS RELEASE

NORTH DAKOTA FERTILIZER AND CHEMICAL USAGE

North Dakota farm operators applied nitrogen to 94 percent of their corn acres in 2001, down from 98 percent in 2000, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. Phosphate was applied to 83 percent and potash was applied to 38 percent of corn acres, up from 80 percent and 29 percent respectively in 2000. For North Dakota, corn was the only crop published at the state level for the 2001 crop year.

The most popular herbicide used on corn in North Dakota was Nicosulfuron. It was used on 53 percent of the corn acres in 2001, up from 32 percent last year. Other commonly used herbicides for corn were Atrazine, applied to 39 percent of the acreage and Dicamba, applied to 34 percent.

This data is part of a series collected to study agricultural chemical use. Sample fields were randomly selected for each crop. The farmers operating the sampled fields were personally interviewed late in the growing season or after the operator had indicated that planned applications were completed.